

2011

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND ANNUAL REPORT

>> **Want to learn what the Historic Preservation Fund and the Federal Preservation Program have to offer?** Just ask Dubuque, Iowa! A poster child for preservation and sustainability, Dubuque is one of the country's most successful local partners in historic preservation, becoming a Certified Local Government at the start of the program in 1985. The city has a strong commitment to the natural and cultural resources that form its unique regional identity, including the Mississippi river, and recognizes that history, architecture, and archeology are key to economic growth and quality of life. To date, Dubuque has documented over 5,000 historic and architecturally significant sites and have greened their design guidelines to help historic properties become even more sustainable.

In 2011, Dubuque capitalized on several HPF sponsored programs including grants and tax credits. Featured in the *Federal Tax Incentives Annual Report*, the city now holds the record for the most jobs created through a tax credit rehabilitation. Spearheaded by the city, the Roshek Building, tallest in Dubuque, was adapted to house the new regional headquarters of IBM. \$45 million in rehabilitation to the former department store resulted in 260,000 square feet of leasable space. The building now houses restaurants and retail on the first floor and 1300 new IBM jobs, a huge boost to the community and local economy.

Dubuque features the quality of life that can attract a company like IBM, and they know a large part of that quality comes from their historic resources. In 2011, the city and county completed two HPF funded Save America's Treasures (SAT) grants for two of their most iconic resources, the Shot Tower, and the Egyptian Revival Jail, \$295,000 and \$125,000 respectively. As one of the few remaining towers in the country used to make lead shot during the Civil War, the Dubuque Tower stands as an icon to the community and has now been stabilized and secured for the future. The County Jail, now completely rehabilitated, gives a unique look at imprisonment from the time of its creation in 1857 forward, and provides an authentic tourism element to the community as well. Combined these projects leveraged over \$470,000 in match.

The city did not stop with SAT and tax credits, they also tapped into the Preserve America program to promote the resources that they knew existed. In 2011, the City used \$150,000 to complete their exhibit and education program for the Mines of Spain, a recreational and historic site also listed as a National Historic Landmark. School groups tour new interactive exhibits, the visitor center, and the site. A second Preserve America grant for \$148,500 was used to establish a system called the Dubuque History Trail. Now a series of way finding signs, maps, walking tours, podcasts, interpretation, and kiosks link seven major historic sites and guide visitors throughout the city. Both were matched dollar for dollar by the city.

This river town on the Mississippi stands out as a model of preservation, sustainability, and partnership for the entire country. By taking advantage of the Historic Preservation Fund and its programs, Dubuque is leading the way for other communities to follow.



MAYOR ROY D. BUOL, CITY OF DUBUQUE, IOWA

"The City of Dubuque views historic preservation as a key component of sustainability with its economic, environmental, and social/cultural benefits. Preservation enhances the vibrancy of neighborhoods and our community, instilling pride and value through increased property values, as well as enhanced quality of life, sense of place and neighborhood pride. Preservation translates into economic prosperity through creation of new jobs, retention of existing jobs especially in construction trades, stimulation of private investment, tourism and business growth, and financial investment in property improvements."



The Dubuque Shot Tower and Egyptian Revival County Jail: two of Dubuque's HPF assisted resources.

>> ORIGINS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND

In 1966, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, through its Special Committee on Historic Preservation, addressed the need to establish a national historic preservation program. The result was the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) which authorized a State Historic Preservation Officer for each State and created the National Register of Historic Places, a mechanism for better Federal agency planning. The Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) was established in 1977 as a matching grant program, currently authorized at \$150 million per year, and funded by Outer Continental Shelf oil lease revenues, not tax dollars. The idea being the exploitation of one resource should benefit another, even though the HPF has never been fully funded at its authorized level. Subsequent amendments to the Act in 1980 created the Certified Local Government Program and in 1992 established Tribal Historic Preservation Officers.

>> HOW DOES THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND WORK?

The **National Park Service** (NPS) administers the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, and uses the majority of appropriated funds to provide matching grants to State and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPO) to assist in their efforts to protect and preserve their historic resources. Each State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), appointed by the Governor for each state, manages this annual appropriation to perform the Federal preservation responsibilities required by the NHPA. Preservation activities may be carried out directly by States, or in the form of subgrants and contracts to public and private agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and individuals. HPF grants to THPOs help them assume SHPO responsibilities on Indian land and undertake preservation activities.

Funding is used by States, Tribes, local governments, and eligible nonprofits to fund HPF eligible preservation projects including: survey and inventory, National Register nominations, preservation education, architectural planning, historic structure reports, community preservation plans, and bricks and mortar repair to buildings. The HPF allows each State the flexibility to shape a program according to its needs, as long as they are meeting the overall responsibilities outlined by the NHPA. Ten percent of each SHPO's allocation must be subgranted to Certified Local Governments, local governments certified by NPS and the State as having made a local commitment to historic preservation. These funds are spent locally on preservation projects, with selection decisions made at the State level. All HPF assisted projects must follow the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation*.

>> THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND IN 2011

In **fiscal year 2011**, the U.S. Congress appropriated \$54,383,960 from the Historic Preservation Fund for historic preservation projects. Short of the \$150 million authorized, this amount represents a reduction of \$25,114,640 from the 2010 appropriation of \$79,498,600, with no Save America's Treasures funding. HPF matching grants to States and Tribes serve as catalysts for preserving and protecting our Nation's irreplaceable heritage without expending tax dollars. HPF funded grants and programs leverage private and nonfederal investment as well as job growth for State, Tribal and local governments while expanding and accelerating historic preservation activities.



Washington's State Historic Preservation Office took an innovative approach to Historic Preservation Month in May 2011, with a goal of reaching larger and younger audiences with their preservation message. Instead of the usual preservation poster, they took advantage of social media to create two public service announcements that featured historic and cultural resources across the state.

Partnering with the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington Main Street, and TVW, the State Public Affairs Network, two 60-second videos were produced using the National Trust for Historic Preservation's tagline, "This Place Matters." The State's Training and Outreach Coordinator worked directly with preservation advocates and Certified Local Governments to identified locations and mobilize participants, as well as writing the script and selecting contemporary music to attract a youthful audience.

The result was two public service announcements that feature historic urban and rural settings across the state and the people that enjoy them. The announcements explain why these historic and cultural places are important to Washington's communities. Launched in May, they were broadcasted on several local stations as a public service, and uploaded to You Tube where they have received hundreds of views! www.dahp.wa.gov/dahp-public-service-announcements.

>> FISCAL YEAR 2011 AT A GLANCE

- Over \$4.02 billion of private investment occurred through the rehabilitation of commercial historic properties under the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Program; a total of \$62.94 billion since 1977. This represents an increase of over half a billion from 2010.
- 7,470 low and moderate income housing units were created through the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit program, for a total of 110,505 units since 1977. The cumulative total of housing units created since 1977 is 201,697.
- An estimated 55,458 jobs were created by Federal Historic Preservation Tax Program rehabilitation projects.
- Approximately 20.5 million acres were surveyed for cultural resources, with over 610,700 properties evaluated for their historical significance and added to State inventories. Approximately 99,000 acres surveyed and 2,000 properties added to Tribal inventories.
- 1,061 new listings were added to the National Register of Historic Places, including 31,022 contributing properties and 269 historic districts, bringing the cumulative total to 87,28 listings in the National Register. Approximately 2,046 new listings were added to the Tribal Register.
- State Historic Preservation Offices reviewed 140,600 Federal undertakings, providing 104,700 National Register eligibility opinions. Tribal Historic Preservation Offices reviewed 41,200 undertakings and made 4,000 eligibility opinions.
- 37 new communities became Certified Local Governments (CLGs), bringing the cumulative total to 1800 CLGs throughout the nation.
- Under local law, CLGs newly designated 57,000 properties and 66,300 properties took part in local preservation review, programs, and incentives.
- Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Groups, and Native Hawaiian Organizations were awarded \$741,460 for 19 projects as part of the Tribal Project Grant program; over \$1.5 million was requested (\$531,487 in FY 2011 funds and \$209,963 from unexpended Tribal money from previous years).
- Supplemental funding for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program provided \$2.9 million to 24 projects; over \$7.2 million was requested.



On April 27, 2011, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, was struck by a string of tornadoes that ripped across the southeast. Leaving hundreds dead, the storm also destroyed large sections of Tuscaloosa's historic neighborhood districts. Three locally designated historic neighborhoods received significant damage, and a fourth, about to be designated, was so damaged its ability to become a historic district was in question. However, the City of Tuscaloosa, a Certified Local Government, reached out to the Alabama Historical Commission (SHPO) for assistance, and quickly began their road to recovery.

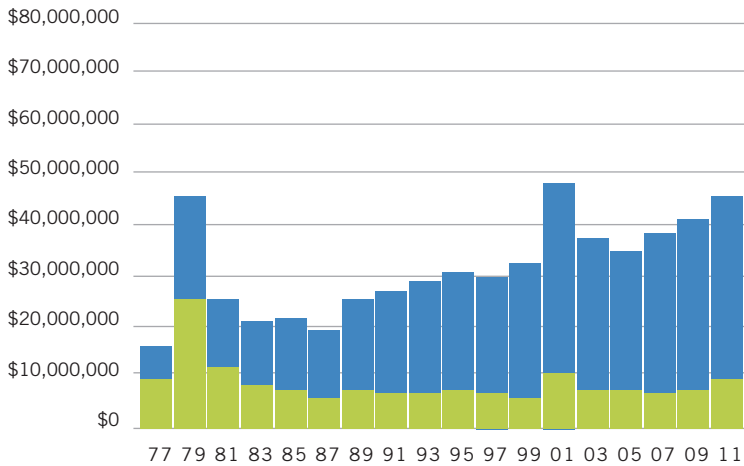
SHPO staff visited Tuscaloosa one week after the storm to help city personnel evaluate the extensive damage and needs. Local and State staff walking the districts on foot and talking to residents about their concerns provided reassurance that the city and State would help them re-establish their historic neighborhoods. The Tuscaloosa Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) volunteered to meet twice monthly throughout the summer to help property owners with building permits and redevelopment issues. HPC also granted Planning Staff the authority to approve certain changes under Expedited Review that would, under normal circumstances, need HPC approval. This elevated response was used as a model for other city boards involved in the rebuilding process.

The Alabama SHPO provided \$5,000 in HPF grant funds, to assist Tuscaloosa with assessment of the damage to three locally protected historic districts: Glendale Gardens, Hillcrest and The Downs. The grant allowed the community to update surveys and bolster the suburban neighborhood plan as a significant historic feature, allowing continued regulation as a historic district. The grant and State assistance provided photographic surveys, updating of survey forms and maps, development of historical background on the districts as early suburbs, and updated architectural descriptions.

As a city, Tuscaloosa serves as a model of response in the face of disaster. Preservation staff and commissioners were on the ground within days to document the damage and reassure residents that their districts would be protected. They instituted emergency policies to deal with the level of repair

and demolition reviews quickly and efficiently. The city also had the foresight to adopt infill guidelines to facilitate the process of new construction which came very quickly as destroyed homes were razed and insurance claims approved. These guidelines helped protect the property values of those homes that were spared, and ensured that the historic suburban character of the neighborhoods would be preserved for the future.

GRANTS TO STATES



DISTRIBUTION OF HPF 2011

State Historic Preservation Offices \$ 46,407,000

Tribal Historic Preservation Offices \$ 7,445,463

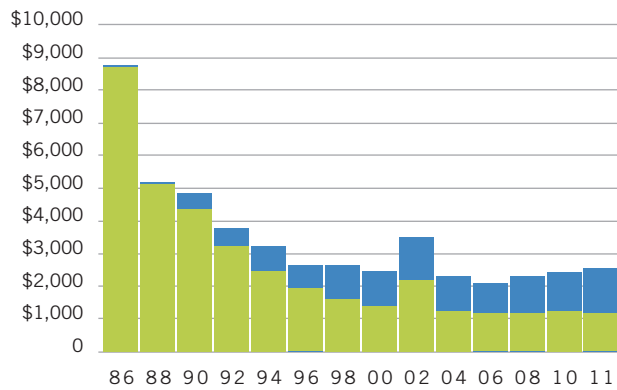
Tribal Project Grants \$ 531,497

Total \$ 54,383,960

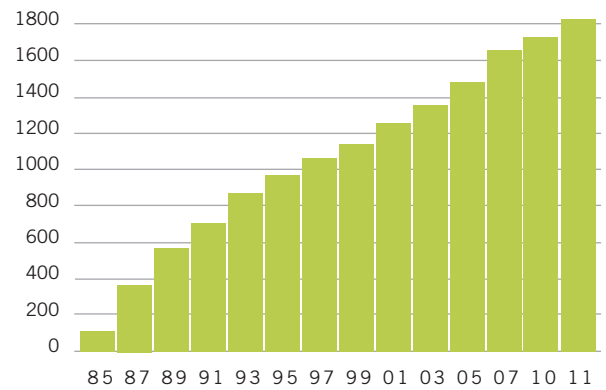
*Supplemental Japanese-American WWII Confinement Camp Preservation Funding \$2,909,000

*Funding for Save America's Treasures and Preserve America was not appropriated in 2011.

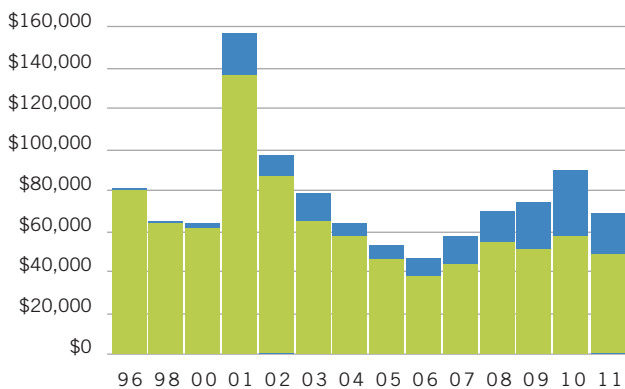
AVERAGE CLG AWARD



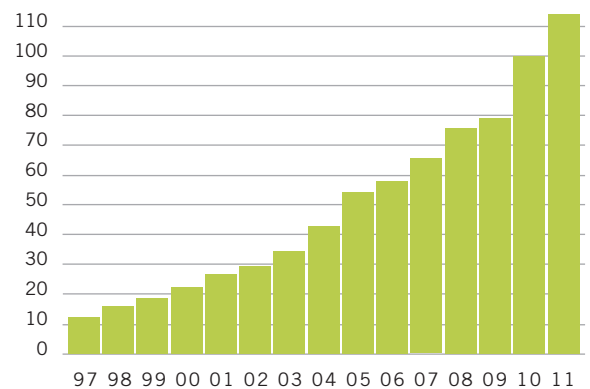
NUMBER OF CLG'S



AVERAGE THPO AWARD



NUMBER OF THPO'S



2011 Grant amounts to States, CLGs, THPOs
Current Buying power with Inflation Adjustment



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